



# Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway  
Newport, Oregon 97365

## NPD MEDIA RELEASE

07/14/2015 3:15 p.m.

**Incident:** Sex Crimes Arrest **Case #: 15N-01456**

**Location:** 354 SE 35<sup>th</sup> Street, South Beach, Oregon

**Date/Time:** 07/17/2015 at 8:50 p.m.

**Arrested:** Mahlon "Mel" Blose, age 67 of South Beach

**Details:** On July 9, 2015, Newport Police Officers began an investigation regarding alleged sexual abuse reported by adult employees of Mahlon "Mel" Blose, age 67 of South Beach. The investigation revealed that Blose, who is bedridden, would hire caregivers through craigslist, offering them room and board, a phone, and food as salary. It was further reported Blose would inappropriately touch, and cause the caregivers to inappropriately touch him, in a sexual manner, threatening they would be fired and kicked off the property if they did not do as instructed.

On July 12, 2015, Newport Police Officers executed a search warrant at Blose's residence in South Beach. Officers seized multiple computers, computer equipment, photos, cameras, published child pornography, evidence of trading in child pornography, and multiple pornographic photographs and negatives.

At the time, due to his medical condition, Blose was cited and released on the charges of Sexual Abuse in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Unlawful Sexual Penetration in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Subjecting Another to Involuntary Servitude in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Trafficking in Persons, Conspiracy, and Harassment. His fines were set at \$515,000.00.

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 a felony indictment warrant was issued for Blose's arrest. He was taken into custody, and lodged at the Lincoln County Jail on the following charges;

Trafficking in Persons, three counts  
Criminal Conspiracy, two counts  
Involuntary Servitude 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, three counts  
Sexual Abuse 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, three counts  
Sexual Abuse 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, three counts  
Encouraging Child Sex Abuse 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree

Anyone with information regarding this investigation, or who may have worked as a caregiver for Blose, is asked to contact Officer Brad Purdom at 541-265-4849. The Newport Police Tip line may be contacted at 541-574-5455, or Text-a-Tip at 541-270-1856.

***# # #***

***Information Released By: Sgt. Tyson Haynes, 541-574-3348***